

English chert forms suggest that they may represent aborted attempts at gunflint manufacture. Five flakes and bifaces of very similar material were also found, although it is possible that these are part of the prehistoric occupation. It is certain, however, that the flake of English flint was the product of the refurbishing of gunflints in historic times. As a group, the English gunflints are generally rectangular in shape, and cortex remains on the top of one of these.

Gunflints clearly represent the bulk of the weapon-related artifacts, and this is not surprising because flints were undoubtedly the most easily replaceable element of the firearm and were discarded once they were no longer serviceable. It is also not surprising that only one gun part, a fragment of a hexagonal barrel, was found because the musket was most likely one of the more valuable of possessions of the eighteenth century. This barrel shows evidence of failure during firing (Kelly 1985).

Shot - The analysis of the flotation sample resulted in the identification of eight lead birdshot pellets. Four of these were located within the Unit 20 column. This has previously been noted as an area of a relatively high frequency of artifacts. The date of manufacture of the lead shot is attributed to the mid-eighteenth century based on the archaeological context.

Clothing Group

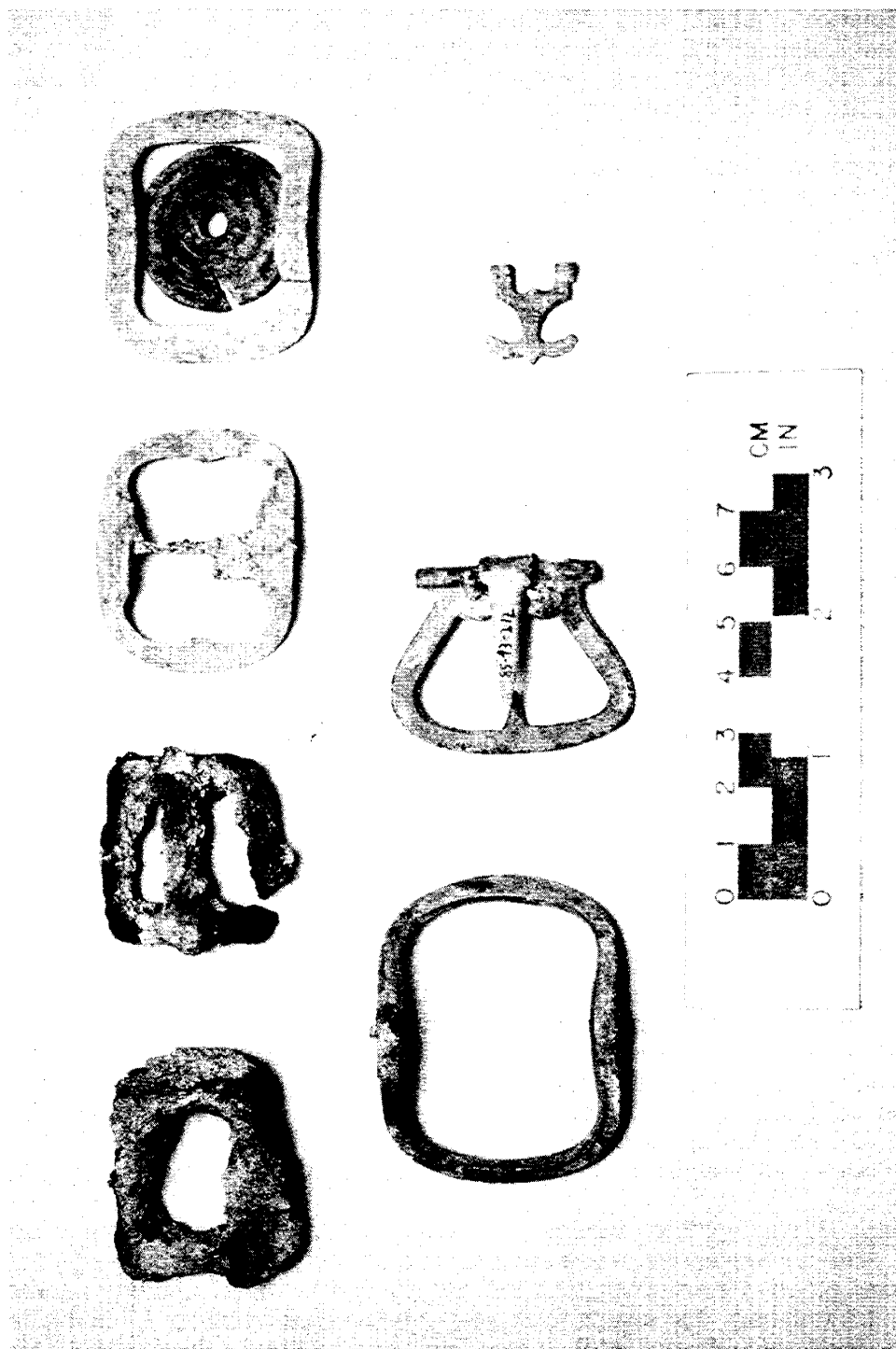
While making up only .28% of the total artifact assemblage, many artifact types from within this group were represented. These included buckles, thimbles, buttons, straight pins, and glass beads.

Buckles (Plate 28) - Of the ten buckles or buckle parts represented, all are clearly clothing-related. Eight are comprised of undecorated, rectangular iron frames with rounded corners. All of these are interpreted to be of single independent print design. Of the nine identifiable forms, two were small, spur buckles, one was a medium sized stock or knee buckle, and six were large belt buckles. A single rectangular iron frame with a raised foliate design was noted on both inside and outside edges on either side of what were centrally-located pin holes. Also noted was an iron hook from a buckle of unknown type. Two buckles were too heavily oxidized for type analysis.

Thimbles and Pins - Two brass or copper thimbles were found in Feature 1, and fragments of eleven brass or copper straight pins and two iron pins were found in the flotation sample (Plate 29). One of the thimbles is much larger than the other. Both are of eighteenth century form and manufacture (Noel-Hume 1969). The number of straight pins obtained from the flotation sample indicates that a great number were originally part of the Feature 1 assemblage.

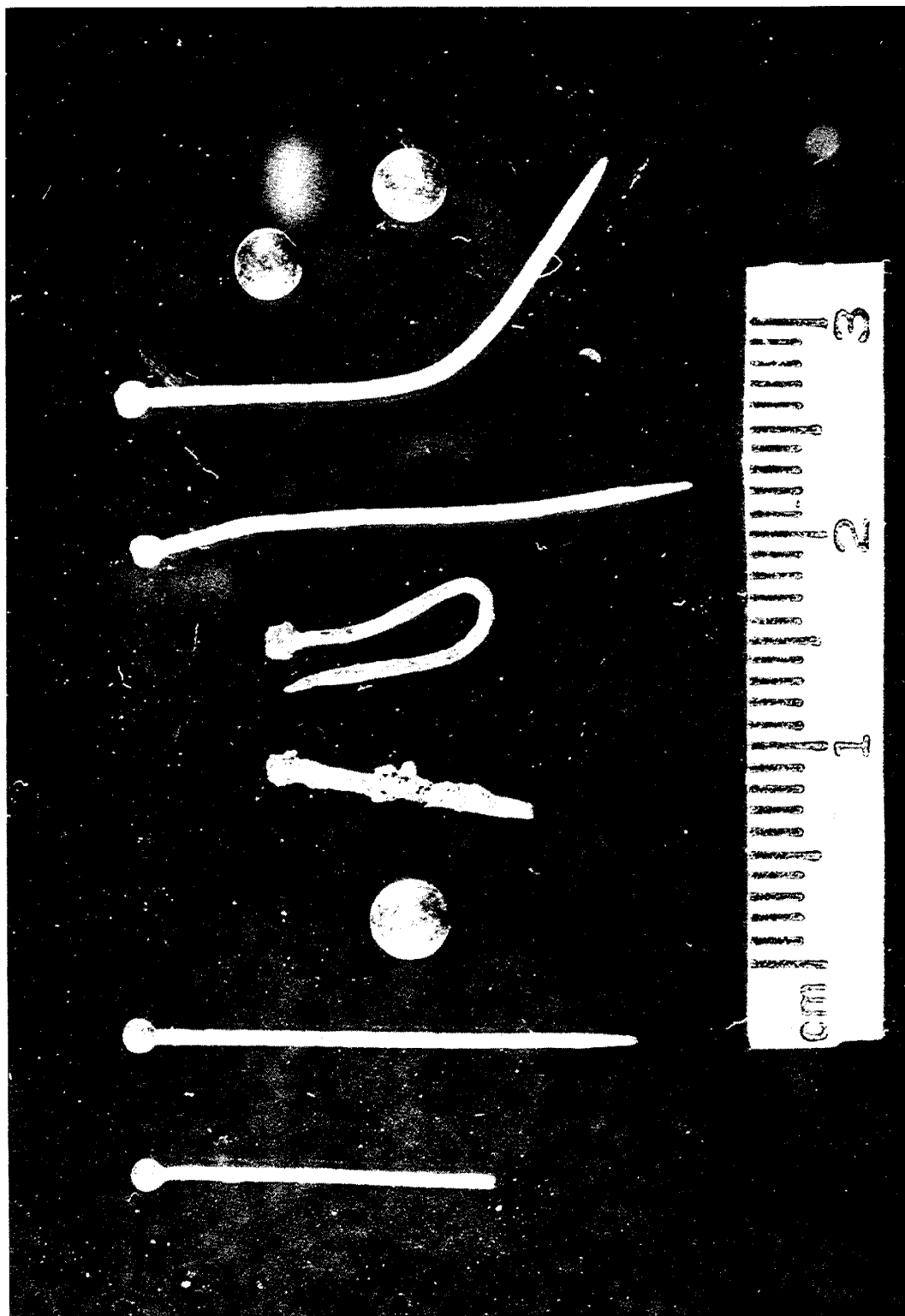
PLATE 28

Buckles



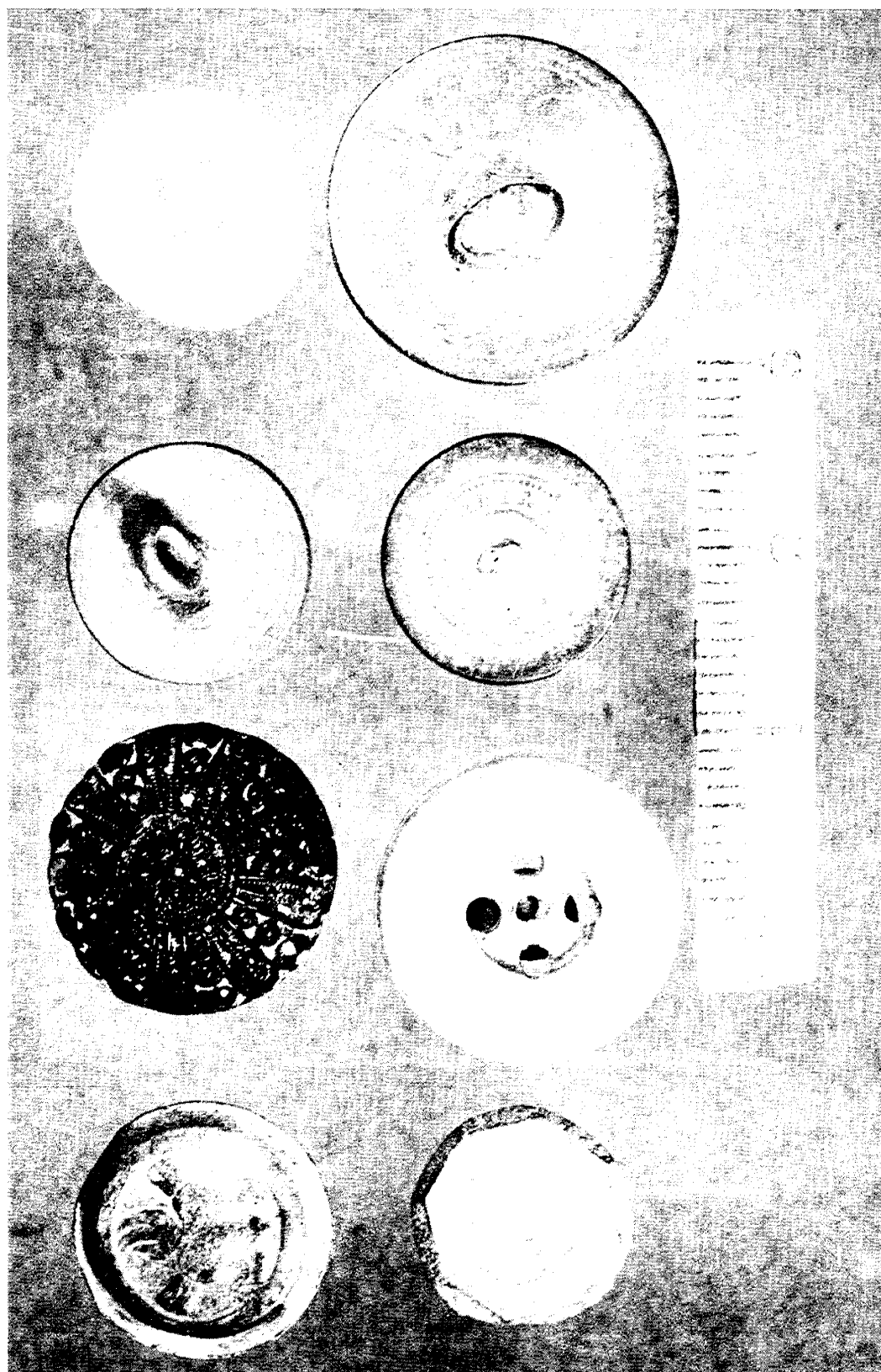
TOP ROW (left to right): two small iron buckles and two copper alloy shoe buckles
 BOTTOM ROW (left to right): copper alloy shoe buckle, copper alloy belt buckle,
 and copper alloy latchet

PLATE 29
Small Metal Objects



Five brass pins, one iron pin, with three lead shot

PLATE 30
Buttons and Cufflinks



TOP ROW (left to right): pewter, glass, copper alloy, and glass
BOTTOM ROW (left to right): pewter, bone, and two copper alloy

Buttons (Plate 30) - Thirty-two buttons were found during Phase II excavations and approximately one-half were from Feature 1 contexts.

Flat disc buttons were found with seven examples collected from feature contexts. Four of these are tin-plated, and the blackened faces of one of these may be indicative of silver-plating (Noel-Hume 1985), and two were too heavily corroded to be identified. The tin-plated forms are all gilded to some extent (superfine, treble, best quality, standard). Two large and five small buttons of this type were represented. All date to the nineteenth century.

Two small, domed backless buttons were also found. The shanks of these are attached to the hollow back side of the buttons. A similar, slightly larger domed item has no evidence of a shank on its inside.

A total of four small buttons were noted. Two small cast, round white metal buttons with raised, but flat crowns were located. Both were decorated, one with a heart decoration characteristic of several forms in Calver and Bolton (1950), and one with the initials V (?) I. This latter type is likely a military button issued to a New Castle County militia unit. Two large, slightly domed, cast buttons, both decorated were identified. One, which contained a casting spur similar to that of Type 6 of Noel-Hume (1985) exhibited a figure in action and the inscription FIRE above the head. The other contained a geometric design prevalent on late eighteenth century forms (Noel-Hume 1969). One wood and two bone buttons were among the forms recovered from nineteenth century contexts. The bone buttons, 4-hole types with centering holes, are identical to Noel-Hume's Type 19 (Noel-Hume 1985). A total of eight glass buttons, six of white glass and two black glass were also identified. One of the black glass forms exhibited a pressed decoration, characteristic of the nineteenth century.

Cuff Links - A total of six cuff links were noted within the assemblage. One semi-intact pair of cuff links was recovered from Feature 1. It consists of two buttons with copper alloy backs into which black, faceted ebony inlays have been set with the two pieces linked by a brass wire. One other cuff link button with a round black glass inlay with engraved intaglio designs was also recovered. The design is of an eight-pointed star. One pewter cuff link with a geometric design impressed on a flat crown was noted. Two cast brass round domed forms with back and eye missing were identified. All are round-shaped, a characteristic common through the first half of the eighteenth century (Noel-Hume 1985).

Personal Group

Several chronologically diagnostic artifact types were noted from within this group. Approximately .29% of the assemblage was